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#8CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Russia

DATE:

SUBJECT Dickson Land on the Island of
West Spitzbergen

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

EVALUATION OF SOURCE Documentary

A	B	C	D	E	F
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EVALUATION OF CONTENT Documentary

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SOURCE

- Dickson Land is located roughly in the south-central part of the island at the head of Isfjorden and between Dickson Fjord on the west and Bille Fjord on the east. The headwaters of Wilde Fjorden partially bound it on the north. It occupies an areal extent of approximately 33 minutes of latitude and one degree and five minutes of longitude based on Mercator's projection, scale 1:600,000 at 79 degrees north latitude. The geographic coordinates taken for the center of the area are N 78° 52' and E 16° 06'.
- The entrance to Dickson Fjord is nearly two miles wide while northward to its headwaters the Fjord widens to approximately 3 to 4 miles and then tapers slightly to an irregular valley-head where three short incised streams enter the Fjord through a narrow morainic plain. The head of the Fjord is named Dicksonalen. The depth of the Fjord varies from 9 meters at its entrance to 41 meters at the headwaters with several depths in between averaging nearly 100 meters.
- On the eastern shore line of Dickson Fjord between Lydta and Nathorstalen is a considerable slip-off slope where possible anchorage and landings could be accomplished. The morainic materials deposited in the slip-off slope are possibly unconsolidated and would offer poor footings but because of the latitude it, undoubtedly, would be frozen the greater part of the year.
- Bille Fjord on the east is a bit wider than Dickson Fjord and is considerably deeper with depths up to 171 meters. On the north-western shore line the slip-off slope is built into deeper water and on a much narrower scale than Dickson Fjord.
- The surface features of Dickson Land are depicted by triangulation stations and spot heights but contour lines are lacking as would naturally be expected on a hydrographic chart. In following the triangulation points and spot heights from north to south the slope of the land is in a south-westerly direction toward Kepp Thorsden. The landed area between the two fjords appears to rise abruptly from the water's edge with a few narrow morainic coastal plains. Judging from the spot heights and triangulation points the topography should be gently rolling to fairly flat.

CLASSIFICATION

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6. The bathymetric contours show water depths in meters and are drawn at 100 meter intervals with soundings made approximately every two miles. In addition to the depths there are shown the coastal features, including submerged rocks, rocks awash, bars, spits and glacier tongues in the water. No cotidal lines are shown on the chart.
7. The paucity of cultural features depicted on or near the coast line makes those which do appear stand out more prominently. The most significant cultural feature is a mine unnamed as type of ore produced. This mine is located near the small inlet on Mimerbukta toward the northwestern end of Bille Fjord, (N7838-E1620) directly east of the 784 foot triangulation station.

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